

C2 5 ~~28~~ The method as claimed in claim 1 [further comprising the] wherein step (e) comprises [of] automatically dispensing the treated water when the pressure in the treatment vessel reaches a preset level.

15 ~~28~~ ¹⁴ The method as claimed in claim [28] ~~28~~ further comprising the step of signalling a user if a predetermined level of treatment of the water is not achieved.

16 ~~30~~ ¹⁴ The method as claimed in claim [28] ~~28~~ further comprising the step of preventing the water from being dispensed from the treatment vessel if a predetermined level of treatment of the water is not achieved.

C3 17 ~~31~~ ¹⁴ The method as claimed in claim [28] ~~28~~ further comprising the step of venting at least a portion of the gas from the treatment vessel during step (b) and passing the vented gas through the filter prior to dispensing water from the treatment vessel.

18 ~~32~~ ¹⁴ The method as claimed in claim [28] ~~28~~ wherein the pressure in the treatment vessel is increased by reducing the amount of gas which is vented from the treatment vessel.

C4 23 ~~36~~ ²⁰ The method as claimed in claim [34] ~~41~~ further comprising the step of venting at least a portion of the gas from the treatment vessel during step (b) and passing the vented gas through the filter prior to dispensing water from the treatment vessel.

24 ~~37~~ ²⁰ The method as claimed in claim [34] ~~41~~ wherein the pressure in the treatment vessel is increased by reducing the amount of gas which is vented from the treatment vessel.

[Please insert new claims 39 - 43 as follows:]

C5 14 ~~29~~ A domestic method of treating water with a gas containing ozone comprising the steps of:

(a) providing water in a treatment vessel;

(b) treating the water in the treatment vessel with ozone to obtain treated water and an off gas;

(c) increasing the pressure in the treatment vessel;

(d) utilizing the increased pressure in the treatment vessel to dispense the treated liquid from the treatment vessel through a carbon filter located downstream from the treatment vessel; and,

(e) passing the off gas through the filter to treat the filter prior to dispensing water from the treatment vessel.

19 ~~40~~ ¹⁴ The method as claimed in claim ~~29~~ further comprising the step of using the

increased pressure in the treatment vessel to engage a dispensing cycle at a preset pressure level in the treatment vessel.

- 20 41. A domestic method of treating water with a gas comprising ozone comprising the steps of:
- (a) providing water in a treatment vessel;
 - (b) treating the water in the treatment vessel with ozone to obtain treated water and an off gas;
 - (c) increasing the pressure in the treatment vessel;
 - (d) utilizing the increased pressure in the treatment vessel to dispense the treated liquid from the treatment vessel through a carbon filter located downstream from the treatment vessel; and
 - (e) preventing the water from being dispensed from the treatment vessel if a predetermined level of treatment of the water is not achieved based on the concentration of ozone in the off gas.
- 21 42. ²⁰ The method as claimed in claim 41 further comprising the step of using the increased pressure in the treatment vessel to engage a dispensing cycle at a preset pressure level in the treatment vessel.
- 22 43. ²⁰ The method as claimed in claim 41 wherein step (c) comprises preventing the liquid from being dispensed from the treatment vessel if the concentration of ozone in the off gas is lower than a predetermined amount.

Please cancel claims 28, 33, 34, 35 and 38.

Remarks

This Voluntary Amendment is supplemental to the telephone conversations with the Examiner of June 15 and 19, 2000. The Examiner is thanked for his assistance during the telephone interviews. The claims which are attached hereto have been prepared based upon the telephone interview with the Examiner.

The Examiner had indicated that the use of the increased pressure in the treatment vessel to commence the dispensing was allowable subject matter. The applicant has amended claim 1 to include this requirement. In particular, claim 1 specifies in step (e) that the increased pressure is used to control a dispensing cycle. Therefore, the applicant submits that claim 1 and the claims dependant thereon are allowable in view of the indication of allowable subject matter by the Examiner.

The Examiner also indicated that utilizing the off-gas to treat a post filter prior to passing water through the post filter was patentable. This subject matter was contained in claims 26, 31 and 36. In order to avoid adding additional